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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

YASUSHI WATANABE, ET AL.

Application No.: N/Y/A (PCT/JP00/00870)

Filed: Currently herewith

For: TABLET AND TABLET
PRODUCTION METHOD

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit:

August 14, 2001

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to action on the merits, please amend the above-identified application
as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 5-7 and 11, and add new Claims 13 and 14 to read as
follows. A marked-up copy of Claims 5-7 and 11, showing the changes made thereto, is
attached.

13. (New) The method for producing a tablet as set forth in claim 10,
wherein said binder is a water-soluble polymer.

14. (New) The method for producing a tablet as set forth in claim 13,
wherein said aqueous solution including the binder and the saccharide with high wettability
against water is adjusted in such a manner that the volume of the water-soluble polymer is